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# LONGACRE'S LEDGER

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Vol. 1, No. 1

January, 1991

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Official Publication of the  
FLYING EAGLE AND INDIAN CENT COLLECTORS SOCIETY  
The "Fly-In Club"

FLYING EAGLE AND INDIAN CENT  
COLLECTORS SOCIETY  
*"The Fly-In Club"*  
P.O. Box 915  
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

## FLYING EAGLE AND INDIAN CENT COLLECTORS SOCIETY

The purpose of the Flying Eagle and Indian Cent Collectors Society is to promote the study and collection of Longacre's design of small cents.

### OFFICERS

President.....Richard Snow  
Vice President/Florida Rep.....Bob Misbin  
Vice President/Northeast Rep.....Henry Hettger  
Secretary.....Xan Chamberlain  
Treasurer.....Charles Jones  
Publisher/Editor.....Larry R. Steve

### ON THE COVER -

#### 1873 Closed 3 Doubled Die Type 1

This coin was cherry picked by a keen eyed collector at the Washington State Coin Show August 17-19, 1990. It was later sold to Allstate Coin Co. at the ANA Show in Seattle August 22-26, 1990. It is now in a California specialists collection. All are members of the "Fly-In Club".

(photo courtesy Tom Mulvaney)

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT -

While accumulating information on a book that I am writing on Flying Eagle and Indian Cents, I found many people with the same complaint: "I can't seem to find any good information on these coins." Many people expressed interest in the book project, but could not wait until the publication. One of these collectors was Larry Steve. Larry, like myself, has a great enthusiasm for Flying Eagles and Indians. The club project was in the back of my mind as being something that needed to be done, but it was not until I talked to Larry that the idea became a quest.

I believe that we are starting this club with more charter members than any other club of this kind ever. The amount of interest and support that we have received reflects a great interest in this series and coin collecting as a whole. The biggest test is yet to come, though. We will desperately need your help in the way of articles and advertising for our journal. We will constantly be in need of new members, and will always need your help in promoting the club. Any comments or suggestions may be made to me at Allstate Coin Co. (800) 346-4809, or by letter at 3848 E. 5th. ST. Tucson, AZ 85716.

I want this club to be a truly democratic organization. In forming the club, however, we had to install the officers on a basis of whoever expressed the most interest in a position. We will hold our first national elections at the ANA convention in Chicago this August.

The idea of preparing a club sponsored exhibit for the ANA Show has been forwarded. I think that we could put forth an exhibit featuring Flying Eagle and Indian Cent varieties that could create even greater interest in the series and in the club. The coins would come from the general membership. Photos could be made to be displayed beside the coin. These photos could be also

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Cont.) -

used in my book, which I hope to have near completion later this year. I would like to hear from any of you with comment or suggestions on this idea.

- Richard Snow, President

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## EDITOR'S COMMENT -

Being neither a publisher nor printer by profession, I have found that creating this Journal has been both a challenge and experience. Perhaps the most difficult aspect has been the development of its format. In my attempt, I have followed the publication design of some of the other successful collector oriented organizations.

Its continued success, however, depends largely upon you the members. In order that we may serve, we need your participation ... Letters to the Editor ... writing articles ... submitting new discoveries ... suggested changes in format ... club sponsored auctions ... trading post ... whatever is wanted or needed must be expressed.

A journal is the cornerstone of any organization and is a measure of its success; and every effort will be made to make this a first-rate publication.

Let's have fun and make it work.

- Larry R. Steve, Editor

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## MEMBERSHIP REPORT -

The formation of the Flying Eagle and Indian Cent Collectors Society was first publicly and formally announced at the A.N.A. convention held in Seattle this past August.

A membership drive is currently underway - at last count we have more than 200+ "interested" individuals.

We hope that they and many more will become members.

- Xan Chamberlain, Secretary

## ANNOUNCEMENTS -

- Formal elections for officers will be held in August at the A.N.A. convention in Chicago.
- The articles that appear within this Journal are written using Wordperfect 5.0 on a Compaq 286.

Anyone who wishes to submit an article may do so either handwritten, on a IBM formatted 5 1/4" diskette or via a modem. Please call first, however, so that I may turn on my computer; my telephone number is (301) 557-8508 (Editor).

- Rick anticipates that his book will be published by the A.N.A. convention this August.

## OLD KENTUCKY COIN

Bill Weikel, Ph.D.

Indian Cent Specialist / Constant Buyer

Member ANA, FUN, LM-KSNA & FEICCS

Vol. I No. I SPECIALS! (My "RB" coins are mostly red.)	
1857 MS-64+.....\$499	1877 VF Retoned.....\$519
1857 MS-60..... 189	1877 VG+..... 249
1859 CH AU..... 139	1877 AG-G..... 159
1862 MS-65 Toned, Choice.. 399	1882 PRF-63..... 139
1862 MS-60..... 89	1892 PRF-65 Art. Color
1862 MS-62/63..... 112	Awesome..... 459
1862 MS-63..... 150	1893 PRF-63RB..... 149
1863 MS-64..... 199	1894 MS-64RB Spots..... 98
1863 MS-63 Toned..... 199	1895 PRF-64RD..... 259
1864 MS-62..... 119	1899 MS-62/63RB..... 30
1864 MS-63..... 179	1899 MS-63+ Old Dip..... 60
1864 MS-65RB Bronze, No "L" 349	1901 PRF-63+ Awesome Tone 136
1864 MS-64RD Bronze, No "L" 165	1901 MS-63+Purple Tone.\$29.99
1864 MS-63RB Bronze, No "L" 105	1901 MS-62RB..... 29
1869 MS-63RB..... 269	1901 MS-60+ BN.....\$18.75
1872 MS-63RB Rim nicks... 289	1902 PRF-64RB..... 239
1873 MS-64RB Open "3"..... 265	1902 MS-64 Brilliant..... 49
1874 MS-60BN.....\$76.50	1904 MS-64RD..... 139
1875 MS-64RD..... 165	1904 MS-60RB..... 23
1876 MS-64+ RD..... 370	1904 PRF-62RB..... 150
1876 MS-64RB.....\$199.99	1904 MS-63/61RB..... 24

SLAB SPECIALS! (Note: I buy the coins, not the slabs!)	
1863 PCGS MS-64.....\$399	1883 NGC PR-63BN.....\$159
1863 PCGS MS-63.....\$199.99	1884 PCGS PR-65BN..... 219
1863 NGC MS-63..... 189.99	1887 PCGS PR-64RB..... 192
1864CN NGC MS-63..... 189.99	1891 PCGS MS-64RB..... 149
1864CN NGC MS-62..... 119.99	1895 ANACS PR-63RB..... 139
1865 PCGS MS-64RB..... 299	1899 NGC MS-65RB..... 179
1865 NGC MS-64RB..... 298	1908S PCGS MS-64RB..... 259
1870 NGC MS-63RB (More BN) 279	1909 PCGS MS-64RD..... 179
1874 PCGS PR-64RB..... 449	1909 NGC MS-64RD..... 179
1875 NGC MS-63BN..... 179	1909 PCGS MS-65RB..... 165

CIRCULATED SPECIALS! (Graded right - thousands more/all dates)	
1857 Fine.....\$14.25	1864 "L" EF.....\$120.00
1858SL VF..... 27.00	1866 EF..... 78.00
1858LL F+..... 18.00	1868 F..... 27.00
1859 VF..... 23.95	1869 G+..... 30.00
1860 VF..... 10.00	1869/9 G..... 89.00
1861 AU-58.....109.00	1872 VF+.....199.00
1862 VF-30..... 8.50	1874 AU..... 66.00
1863 AU..... 31.95	1909S F+.....125.00

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## THE MIDNIGHT MINTER

by Richard Snow

Clash marks are impressions that are created when the dies strike each other without a planchet in between. The result is a backwards image of the obverse die impressed into the reverse die. The converse happens to the obverse die also. These occur fairly often on most coins, especially when the production levels are turned up to full capacity.

By their very nature, and because they are seen so frequently, clash marks are usually delineated to the back row of variety and error listings, if mentioned at all. The following discoveries should change the way you look at clash marks, for 1857 dated coins at least.

In 1977 a keen-eyed Jesse Perrotta of New Jersey found an 1857 quarter with strange clash marks. He sent the coin to Tom DeLorey, who at the time was editor of "Collectors Clearinghouse" for "Coin World". Tom had earlier seen strange clash marks on 1857 coins, and had filed the information for future use.

The clash marks turned out to match exactly the reverse design of the Flying Eagle Cent! The dies were aligned with a 'medal turn', which means that they designs are aligned top to top, as opposed to a 'coin turn' where the designs are aligned top to bottom.

A backwards E can be seen imbedded into the shield. The outline of the top of the 'Cornucopia Wreath' is translated into a zig-zag down the eagles back, and under her beak. As far as I know, 2 to 3 are known, but hopefully more will surface.

The same year Bill Fivaz, the consummate cherry-picker, found a 1857 cent that showed clash marks on the obverse that were caused by the obverse of a Seated Liberty Half! The designs were also aligned with a medal turn. The shin of the Liberty seated design can be seen above the eagles head. The head, hair, arm and pole portion of the design can be seen above the eagle, and below 'STAT'. The lower arm of Liberty can be seen

through 'RICA'. These seem to be R7. (4 to 12 known). Jack Beymer has a few of these.

The next one found, was a Flying Eagle Cent of 1857 with clash marks on the obverse from a Double Eagle! the profile can be seen behind the eagle in the letters of 'AMERICA'. I would like to find out who the discoverer of this one was. Bill Fivaz called my attention to this one, but he did not claim to be the discoverer. 2 known?



(Photo shown as a mirror image)

In 1986 Bill found the matching cent to the quarter that I describe above. His 'serendipitous' account was published in Bowers & Merena's 'Rare Coin Review'. This coin shows the outline of the eagles head above 'ONE' on the reverse. Bill relates that two were known to him at that time.

How could have these clash marks been made? Who could have made them? One theory was put forward by Tom DeLorey in his Collector Clearinghouse article when the Perrotta coin triggered some research in 1977. Using that as a base, I offer you now, the rest of the story:

Before 1857, Coin collecting in America was confined to a few individuals who, for the most part, were interested in early colonial pieces and Washington medals. With the advent of the new small cent, and reports of generous offers for ones dated 1856, many more people became interested in collecting. This new swarm of activity created an opportunity for profit within The Mint.

The Director, James Ross Snowden, was adding Washington medals to the Mint cabinet by trading unusual patterns and restrikes of rare coins to the Philadelphia antiquarian community. Some of the coins that may be attributed to these dealings are the Gobrecht Dollar restrikes, the 1859-60 Transitional Half Dimes, 1851, 52 and 1858 restrike dollars, possibly the first restrike of the 1840-48 Half Cents, and many of the 1858 pattern cent combinations. This was all part of the semi-legal daytime dealings of The Mint at the time, but more notorious events were occurring in the early morning hours by a member of the most trusted name in the early mint history.

The Eckfeldt family had been employed by the mint throughout its history. Adam Eckfeldt was at various times engraver and chief coiner. His sons Jacob and George were employed respectively as principal assayer and foreman of the engraving room. George's sons, John and Theodore were also employed at The Mint. John was sent to San Francisco in 1854 to be chief coiner. Theodore was given odd jobs at The Mint as a boy, but was fired for stealing.

Theodore was later given another chance at The Mint. By 1857, the young Eckfeldt was placed in the trusted position as night watchman! Theodore, and possibly a few cronies, had access to the coining presses, leftover planchets, and any dies that happened to be in the presses at the time. Later, he apparently gained access to the Die Vault, where Snowden's pet projects were kept.

At first Teddy (My nickname) was apparently just fooling around with the presses. He would place mismatched denomination dies in the press and strike off a few oddities. Because he could not use the correct collar size when striking his "mules", many of the dies clashed. These creations were either not taken out of the mint, or were retrieved and melted. From these clash marks we get the truly bizarre story of the 'Midnight Minter'.

Later as his coining knowledge improved, Teddy began striking coins for profit. He probably is responsible for the second restrike 1840-1848 Half Cents, and 1827 restrike Quarters. Some of the stranger Flying Eagle patterns may be his making also, like the 1856 / Ornamented Shield (J-184), and the dateless pieces (J-178-179) and (J-201, 219).

As far as we know, Teddy may also be responsible for the restrike 1801-03 dollars, and the famous 1804 plain edge restrike dollar(s). His coins were easily detected as restrikes because he did not put any edge lettering on his products. These coins, however, brought his activities into the spotlight, and created quite a scandal at the mint.

In 1858, the outcry of jealous collectors and others brought much embarrassment to The Mint. The 1804 Dollars all had to be bought back by mint officials. One was placed in the Mint Collection, the others were stored for a few years, and later quietly sold (now with edge lettering added).



Snowden's pattern business faltered under the ethics questioning that followed. As for Teddy, well, he remained at The Mint, with no more than a stern warning not to make any more oddities, a warning he failed to heed, as he is known to have supplied pieces to the area shops for years to come.

As far as the clash marks are concerned, I think that there are many more 'odd' clash marks yet to be identified for 1857 coinage. At this time it seems that they all involve the cents of that year. This area seem ripe for the cherry-picking. Please let me know what you find.

#### Sources:

Coin World  
Collectors Clearinghouse  
"Was mischief afoot in 1857 die clashes?"  
By: Tom DeLorey  
July, 1, 1977 pg. 56.

Bowers & Merena Galleries  
Rare Coin Review #62  
"Never in my wildest dreams..."  
By: Bill Fivaz  
Winter 1986 pg. 29.

#### Photos:

1857 Cent /CM \$20 Liberty: Bill Fivaz

## WHY INDIAN CENTS?

by Bill Weikel, Ph.D.

If you're an average Joe, Jane or Jose, you probably can't afford to plop down the current Coin Dealer's Newsletter (Grey Sheet) wholesale price (let alone retail) for a "good" set of Barber quarters at \$1,350, or Barber half dollars at \$700. If you've been collecting some time, you probably have had your fill of "Gem BU" coins and modern sets and are ready for a numismatic challenge. Indian and Flying Eagle Cents are such a challenge. They are both affordable and won't cost you a month's rent should you make a grading error. I suggest that you begin by collecting the 59 coins in a regular set of Indians and Eagles (See Larry Steve's article elsewhere in this issue). I say 59 simply because the DANSCO (for example) album # 7101, World Coin Library, contains 59 holes. As your budget, patience and experience allows, you can expand your collecting to a yet undetermined figure, as many new types and varieties continue to emerge. Hence the reason for this journal.

You might, for example, complete a set of 59 coins in "good" condition for about \$550.00 to \$700.00, if you skip the 1869/8 (or 69/9) and the elusive and expensive 1856 Flying Eagle cent, which is technically a pattern. Grading the series is relatively easy. "Good" examples should exhibit a full rim, clear date and a full outline of the Indian. The rim may be worn down to the tops of the letters, but the letters should be readable. I do not suggest buying "about good" coins unless your budget dictates it. Many novices put together a nice set of coins and skimp on the key dates to "save" money. As a dealer, I can tell you that most dealers look first at the key coins in determining their offer in buying a set. If you're completing a set try to be consistent in grade for the entire set. I believe it will look better and bring you more when you decide to sell or upgrade.

If you shoot for a set of "very good", each coin should show three letters of LIBERTY on the Indian's headdress, or two full plus two partial letters. If you

aspire for a "fine" set - a still affordable goal foremost, a full (but weak) LIBERTY must show. An investment in Photograde or the ANA Grading Guide is one that will quickly pay for itself, especially in grading the more difficult Flying Eagle Cents.

If you seek higher grade coins, from very fine to nicer uncirculated pieces, be prepared to spend some time and money. Many of the coins in the 1860's and 1870's are tough to find, especially in VF, EF and AU. I frequently find uncirculated coins easier than the same dates in EF. If you advance into types, varieties and errors, you'll find Walter Breen's new Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins (1988) and journals such as this to be indispensable.

Another nice thing about collecting Flying Eagle and Indian cents is that not everyone has a set or a set in progress. Only God knows how many "baby boomers" who today are middle aged are prowling the bourse floors, old Whitman blue books in hand, looking to fill the holes for the 1914-D, 1922 plain and 1909-S VDB. Naturally the demand runs up the price of the coins so that 1909-S VDB Lincoln (mintage 484,000) has a 1991 Redbook value of \$250.00 in "good", while the scarcer 1909-S Indian (mintage 309,000) lists for only \$95.00 in the same grade.

The key date 1877 cent (mintage 852,500) will run you about \$200 in "good", since few persons realized the coins scarcity until much later and there are few survivors, especially in higher grades. When buying the key dates of any series, remember that grading standards remain the same (note, there are certain coins/dates with notoriously weak strikes) and that an expensive difference of opinion can be simply a matter of who owns the coin. If you attend a good-sized show such as Long Beach, Florida United Numismatists (FUN) or the American Numismatic Association's (ANA) you can probably complete a regular set of Indians, at least in lower grades on the bourse floor. It can get to be a challenge collecting in VF and better. An EF/AU set is especially tough and will strain even some fairly well funded coin budgets. My set averages MS-63 and is all uncirculated except for the 1869/8, where the best I could find was

a choice AU-58. Recently I found a nicer uncirculated example, but the wallet was bare! It took me off and on, 31 years to get my set to this point and it will probably be several more years before I call it finished. It's worth the effort to watch fellow collectors salivate over my 1856 Flying Eagle in Proof 63 and my choice semi-prooflike 1877. While I don't tout coins primarily as an investment, these two have certainly appreciated nicely in the few years that they've been in my possession.

Novice or advanced collector, the Indian and Flying Eagle cent series can offer many hours of pleasure and varying degrees of challenge-collect by grade, color (red to brown with beautiful in-between RB coins) variety or errors. The choice is up to you and there is never a better time to begin than now!

BILL WEIKEL IS A COLLECTOR AND DEALER WHO SPECIALIZES IN INDIAN CENTS AND EARLY TYPE COINS. HE OWNS OLD KENTUCKY COIN AND IS ALSO A COLLEGE PROFESSOR.



## THE ILLUSIVE/ELUSIVE COMPLETE SET

by Larry R. Steve (photos courtesy Tom Mulvaney)

Apart from the 1856, a generally accepted definition of a complete set of Flying Eagle and Indian Head cents is one that is comprised of fifty-eight (58) coins - dated from 1857 to 1909-S.

If we stop for a moment to consider this set, we soon realize that there are some regular issue varieties such as the 1858 Lg. Let., 1858 Sm. Let., 1864 Copper-Nickel, 1864 Bronze and the 1864-L that are included automatically. There are other varieties such as the 1873 Closed 3 and 1886 Type II that are also generally collected. In fact, many reference books, coin albums and holders often mention or accommodate these additional varieties in a manner that implies that their inclusion would then constitute a complete set.

There are, however, at least two other varieties that could be considered as "regular varieties". One is the 1860 Type 1 (pointed bust) and the other is the 1865 Fancy 5. Both of these coins are very collectable and should be included in one's collection.



1860 Type 1



1865 Fancy 5

I would like to suggest that we designate the fifty-eight (58) coin set as a "regular set", rather than a complete set. Following this line of thought, I would then call the sixty (60) coin set [that which includes the 1873 Closed 3 and 1886 Type II] as a "modified regular set". Finally, a third designation of "extended regular set" would be one that includes both the 1860 Type 1 and 1865 Fancy 5.

Note, however, that I have intentionally avoided the term "complete set" for the last set. There are numerous other "error varieties" such as repunched dates (RPDs), overdates, doubled dies, etc., that should be considered and included if one is to approach the elusive complete set.

Some of these error varieties are well known, being listed in many of the standard reference books. Other lesser known, but equally collectable, varieties exist which should be sought after by any avid collector of the series.

The generally known varieties of this type (error) include the 1858/7, 1869/'8', 1873 doubled LIBERTY and the 1888/7 (although I don't believe the last is very collectable).

Some of the other collectable varieties include the 1866/6, 1867/67, 1869/69, and the 1894/1894. There are many others which are far too numerous to list and whose rarity is such that the collectability of them may be limited. In categorizing these varieties, I would suggest the following groupings and designations:

Basis Variety Set - Extended regular set, plus  
1869/69 and 1894/1894

Modified Variety Set - Basic varieties, plus  
1866/6 and 1867/1867

Extended Variety Set - Modified varieties, plus  
1858/7 and 1873 dbl LIBERTY

(Other combinations could be suggested.)

Any collection that has more than the above listed coins should simply be designated as an "advanced set". Even if one were to have a set of all the known varieties, this series is such that yet another variety could be discovered rendering the set as incomplete. At best, any such set of known varieties would be a temporary and illusory complete set.

## COLLECTING WITH A PURPOSE

by Q. David Bowers

As a professional numismatist, I have encountered many coin buyers. Over a long period of years I have observed that those who derive the most satisfaction and register the best financial performance (for investment seems to be at least a part of the motivation of the majority of collectors) are those who acquire their coins according to a plan or specific program.

This is not always easy to do, especially in the face of advertisements and investment claims that implore the prospective buyer to accumulate a quantity of 1938-D Buffalo nickels, rolls of Morgan silver dollars, common-date double eagles, or any item the vendor happens to have on hand in quantity. Rare is the dealer who will suggest, at least in print, that clients set about forming a specific collection or selecting a specialty that might include items the dealer does not have on hand.

But, in my opinion, collecting with a purpose is the best way to go. Consider as an example the field of Indian Head cents. The collector will survey the series and conclude that from the first issue in 1859 to the last in 1909 there is a mixture of common and rare pieces. While many sources of information could be cited, I suggest that *A Guide Book of United States Coins* (the "Red Book") will provide an ideal beginning point for determining which coins to include, which to pass over and the best grade levels for acquisition.

The first decision addresses how you will collect. Do you want one example of each date and mintmark—the standard way to collect—or do you want to include subvarieties, such as the 1869 with the repunched 9 in the date, the 1873 with doubled LIBERTY, the two date varieties ("closed 3" and "open 3") for 1873, the two feather position varieties of 1886 and the elusive 1888/7 overdate? Among these pieces, the 1873 doubled LIBERTY is a great rarity; fewer than two dozen pieces have been identified. Rarer still is the 1888/7 overdate, discovered by James F. Ruddy in 1970.

Once you determine what varieties to include, it is best to formulate an objective for the grades you desire. I like the idea of collecting an evenly matched set. For the numismatist who does not want to spend a great deal of money, a collection in EF-40 with a nicely matched surface coloration (I like chocolate brown) will form a very beautiful display. In the Uncirculated category, pieces are available in lustrous brown, a mixture of red and brown, or fully red colorations. This is a tricky area, as many coins, including encapsulated examples, are spotted, dipped or re-toned. Your best bet is to enlist the advice of a trusted dealer who can guide you in the acquisition of coins with excellent aesthetic appeal.

Proofs offer another possibility, and in today's market are less expensive than they were 10 years ago - a really remarkable situation. Proofs of all dates from 1859 to 1909 exist, although the 1864 with "L" (for engraver Longacre) on the ribbon are very rare. It is estimated that only about 20 were coined. No proofs exist for the 1873 doubled LIBERTY, 1873 "open 3," or the 1908 and 1909 San Francisco Mint varieties. If you aspire to form a collection of proofs, it is probably practical to add these in Uncirculated grade.

In the Indian Head cent series it is possible to form a "collection within a collection" by starting with the 1879, as pieces of this date are truly inexpensive. A set of Philadelphia Mint cents from 1879 through 1909 comprises 31 pieces, none of them rare. In fact, in EF-40 grade such a set can be put together for just a few hundred dollars.

From an investment viewpoint, building a set of Indian Head cents (or any specialty) makes sense, inasmuch as you automatically form a balanced "portfolio" by acquiring one each of every date, some common and some rare.

EDITOR'S NOTE: THIS ARTICLE FIRST APPEARED IN THE NOVEMBER, 1990 ISSUE OF *The Numismatist* AND IS REPRINTED, IN PART, WITH PERMISSION OF THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION.

# INDIAN HEAD CENT SPECIALS # 1

A selection of accurately graded Flying Eagles and Indians from our current inventory. Your satisfaction is always a must!

1857	EF/AU sharp!	75	1874	EF(45)	50
1857	VF	32	1875	AU(55)	75
1858SL	VF nice	27	1876	GEM UNC full red	350
1858LL	Choice UNC lovely	225	1876	AU(55)	100
1858LL	VF+ sharp	30	1877	AU(50+) some red	
1859	Choice UNC beautiful	245		RARE	\$1,200
1859	AU(55) lovely	140	1877	VG+ problem free	260
1859	EF(45)	67	1878	CH PROOF mostly red	220
1859	VF	23	1879	Choice UNC red	100
1860	Choice UNC sharp	160	1879	EF	17
1861	UNC(60)	165	1880	UNC brown	32
1861	EF(45)	65	1881	AU(55)	20
1861	VF+	38	1882	Choice UNC full red	85
1862	AU(55) filled 6 neat	50	1883	Choice PROOF RB	170
1862	EF(45)	19	1884	Choice UNC RB lovely	100
1863	Choice UNC	130	1884	UNC satiny brown	50
1863	EF(45)	18	1885	Choice UNC RB scarce	95
1864CN	UNC(62) full luster	145	1885	UNC(62) RB	65
1864CN	EF(45)	30	1885	EF(45)	27
1864BR	GEM UNC	325	1886TY1	CH UNC mostly red	80
1864BR	Choice UNC RB	110	1886TY2	UNC some red RARE	150
1864-L	Choice UNC some red	340	1888	UNC mostly brown	24
1864-L	G+	33	1889	GEM UNC lovely RB	95
1865	UNC(62) RB	65	1890	UNC red/brown nice	35
1865	AU(55)	35	1892	AU(55)	18
1866	Choice UNC brown	190	1893	UNC satiny luster	50
1866/6	Br#1969 Fine scarce	55	1894	CH UNC(63) RB nice!	95
1866	Fine	36	1894/894	F-VF very scarce	55
1867	AU	130	1894	AU(55)	23
1867/67	G scarce	40	1894	30% off-center VF	70
1867	Recut 1 Br#1973 VG-F	45	1895	Choice UNC(63) RB	35
1868	PCGS MS63 RB nice	225	1896	AU(55) nice	16
1868	AU some red	130	1897	UNC satiny tan luster	30
1868	VG	21	1898	Choice UNC(63) nice	35
1869	VG rotated rev	38	1899	AU(55) super	15
1870	Choice UNC brown	295	1900	ANACS MS64 RB	70
1870	EF(45)	170	1901	ANACS MS63 RB 95% red	55
1870	Spiked "L" F-VF neat	135	1901	Choice UNC full red	85
1870	Fine	95	1902	Choice UNC RB lovely	35
1871	UNC brown scarce	275	1903	Choice UNC red & gold	32
1871	VF+	185	1904	GEM UNC full red	90
1871	VG-F	45	1905	GEM UNC full red	90
1872	ANACS MS63 BRN	395	1906	GEM UNC full red	90
1872	EF/AU sharp	275	1907	Choice UNC RB	25
1873CL3	Choice UNC RB RARE	450	1908	ANACS MS63 RB	35
1873CL3	EF(40) scarce	130	1909	PCGS MS64 RB	70
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# AND THE TRIBE IS STILL GATHERING

by Joe Haney

The collecting of coins can be whatever a person wants it to be. Most us started collecting at an early age with coins from pocket change or through small purchases at a local coin shop. If every person that ever put a coin into a coin album was still pursuing the hobby today, coin shops would be on every corner and the buying and selling of coins would be one of the biggest businesses in the country. This of course is not the case and we find very few today who call themselves collectors. Not all of these are really collectors but rather someone with an accumulation of coins or a half dozen partially filled albums that have not seen the light of day in years.

True collectors or hobbyists can also be broken down into a few different categories. The spurt collector will save for a year or two and stop for an indefinite period of time only to reenter the hobby for another spurt. I am sure these collectors enjoy the hobby as much as the rest of us as circumstances permit.

What causes these spurts and some times, unfortunately, the total abandonment of collecting? Money can be a factor, although from what I see today it is not a very big one. Most uncirculated coins from quarters as old as 40 years can be had for under a dollar. The older coins can be had in circulated grades for not much more. Oh, of course the keys and semi keys will present a problem in some instances but in most cases they are not insurmountable. Time is another factor although again I have to discount it because if you are pursuing a hobby, time should mean nothing. A hobby should not be a burden, but rather total relaxation and enjoyment. I don't even want to talk about the disillusioned investor/collectors. Those that get into the hobby with the sole purpose of making money, unless they do a lot of studying, have little chance to even know what the hobby is all about. They will get hurt the first time they try to sell a few coins and leave the hobby, probably forever.



With all these negatives, and there are many more than I have skimmed through here, one might wonder why there are any people still collecting coins in a hobby that has taken so many hard knocks lately. The true collectors and numismatists (a word I do not use lightly) are probably sitting out there laughing at what I am trying to say here. They know the thrill of the search for another coin to add to their collections. They enjoy reading about coins and studying them. Why different coins were struck and designs changed. I could go on and on, each collector with his/her own reason for pushing another coin into an album.

For you borderline collectors who have trouble staying with the hobby, how about hanging on for a short time longer. The newly forming Flying Eagle/Indian Head Cent Club might be just what you need to see what collecting is all about. There are basically 60 coins in the starter set. Does 'starter set' sound strange to you? Well stick around with us and you will be led into a land of no return and a 'set' of coins that will never see completion. Accept the challenge and I promise a lifetime of enjoyment.

Many collectors like Indian Head cents because the Indian Maiden seems to symbolize America, the coins are fairly easy to grade, and they become more beautiful with each advanced grade. When I say Indians or refer to Indian Head series or set, I am of course talking about all of the small cents from 1856 to 1909, Flying Eagles of 1856 through Indian head cents of 1909-S. There are only a couple of dates that present a problem price wise and according to your collecting preference, only one coin, the 1856 Flying Eagle that presents an all but insurmountable obstacle, as far as cost goes. Actually, this coin as far as I'm concerned, is a pattern and is not really needed as part of a business strike set, although there isn't a collector that I know of that wouldn't have one in their collection if possible.

Where, you are probably asking does the never ending set come in and what will constitute the lifetime of enjoyment? Think VARIETIES, VARIETIES, VARIETIES. Each date (I can personally vouch for 56 or 57) has a

any number of varieties. They can be doubled dies, repunched dates, over dates, broken letters, broken dates, and on, and on, and on. There virtually is no end to what can be found. You will be the master of your own set. You can collect how ever you wish. Want to specialize on one particular date? How about over twenty different coins for 1906 or almost thirty for 1907? I have that many in my collection and I am sure there must be at least twice that many in each year. And I am talking about repunched dates only, not the different date locations on each die that a few specialists have identified.

Don't ever let anyone lead you to think that the hobby is getting dull or running out of steam. That is far from the truth as my telling you the government is going to hand out free proof sets to each collector that visits any branch of the mint in the upcoming year. Fat chance. The hobby as a true hobby is alive and well. The collector that has been sitting on the side line for so many years has raised his head and roared. He has once again taken over control of the hobby and let it be known the type of coins he is interested in and at what price. The new interest is born out of the extremely high activity in type coins and sets. Almost every collector is looking to find a club or two to join to advance his/her knowledge in his/her favorite set of coins. They can also, hopefully contribute some of the knowledge they have accumulated over the years.

As each new club is formed, the basic interest seems to be centered around the known and the unknown varieties that have come to light over the years. The clubs have become a gathering point for the varieties in each series and the emphasis in collecting has evolved to expand a normal set of coins with as many varieties as possible. And believe me the excitement is bringing a new breed of collector to the hobby. It is a breed that studies coins, studies how they are manufactured, studies the reason for different denominations and studies the different metals used. You are or will be seeing the birth of a whole new raft of numismatist (and again I do not use the word lightly) in the months and years to come. The fun and the excitement will be seen again in our hobby. New names

will crop up to add to the many distinguished authors, lecturers, researchers, and collectors that have made the name numismatist one of the most respected names in the hundreds of hobbies followed the world over. Why not add your name to the list. As I said before, a lifetime of enjoyment lies ahead of you if you want to take up the challenge.

To add a little spice to the newly forming Flying Eagle/Indian Head Cent Club and memorialize it's first journal, I would like to show for the first time (to the best of my knowledge) a coin that was discovered by Bill Marcks of Pennsylvania (photos yours truly). An 1891 Indian Head cent obverse Doubled Die. It is in my opinion the most important new discovery in the Indian Head cent series since the 1865 reverse doubled die was brought to light a year or two ago. Not only is it a new discovery, but it shows us there is absolutely no limit to what is still out there waiting to be found. Doubling shows strongest in LIBERTY on the head band, the band itself, the feather tips, and ATES OF AME in United States of America. A truly spectacular coin that has been hiding these past one hundred years. This is where the lifetime of enjoyment lies. You can't say there is nothing left to find. How many more of these doubled dies are out there? Not only more examples of the 1891 but new dates like 1892 or 1903 or what ever. It is going to take all of us working together, many, many years to bring these new varieties to light and record them for the entire hobby. Yes, AND THE TRIBE IS STILL GATHERING.

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1891 Obverse Doubled Die





## The F.IND.ERS™ REPORT

by Larry R. Steve (photos courtesy COIN WORLD)

I would like to introduce what I hope to be a regular feature article of this Journal.

To begin - What is F.IND.ERS?

Several months ago, while I was examining my Indian cent varieties, I was trying to think of a catchy title for my collection. After a few moments, a thought came to me and I "coined" the term F.IND.ERS as an acronym for Flying Eagle and Indian cent errors and varieties. Personally, the term is somewhat reminiscent of a childhood expression "Finders, keepers, ...", and I think that both the term and the phrase aptly express the essence of variety collecting. I hope you, the readers, enjoy my choice of terminology.

The purpose of this article is to feature different varieties, both listed and unlisted, and to present new discoveries. Hopefully, we will be able to build a comprehensive reference file for our members. With your help this can be a tremendous success and I invite any member, who wishes, to submit their "finds" for listing and acknowledgement.

Currently, we are looking into making arrangements for photographs, examinations and variety recording. Until these arrangements are made, we ask that you do not send any coins. We will keep you informed as to when these arrangements have been made.

If you have a variety that you wish to share with other members, we ask that for those of you who are able to send a picture (pictures will be returned) and to write a short article about your variety.

The following two varieties, an 1/1866/1866/6 and an 1866 Doubled LIBERTY Indian cent, are from my personal collection and were recently submitted to *Coin World* and may be featured in a future *Collectors' Clearinghouse* column.

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1/1866/1866/6



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1866 Doubled LIBERTY





Breen's lists an 1866/6 (# 1969) which states that the final 6 was plainly repunched and that the top of the extra 6 is high. The variety pictured here shows dramatic repunching. The 1 was first punched extremely low, with the serif showing far below the serif of the final 1. The base of another 1 can be seen above the base of the final 1. Minor repunching on the 8 can be seen inside the upper loop. The first 6 shows evidence above the lower loop and along the outer northwest edge (although not clearly pictured here). The second 6 clearly shows evidence of a third punched 6 above the lower loop.

I actually believe that this date was triple punched with the first date punched upward from left to right, hence the low 1 and high 6. I believe the second and third punch were in the final position, but slightly askew. I was rather fortunate to acquire this piece.

Another piece that I was fortunate to acquire was the 1866 Doubled LIBERTY. It is not quite as dramatic as the more commonly known 1873 Doubled LIBERTY Type 1, but it is also listed in Breen's (# 1971) and is designated as being very rare. The doubling is most noticeable on 'ERTY' of LIBERTY and is to the relative north.

There are several other varieties in my collection that I intend to share with you in later issues. It is my hope, however, that others will share their varieties as well.

Two members have already submitted new discoveries that we are able to share with you in this our maiden issue (no pun intended).

The first is one that I would characterize as a major find. It is an 1891 Doubled Die obverse (DDO) discovered by Bill Marcks of Pennsylvania, photographed and submitted by Joe Haney. The coin is featured separately in Joe's article "And The Tribe is Still Gathering" found on page 19 of the Journal.

This month's new discovery is an 1865 plain 5, with an extra 5 punched into the denticals. An extra 1 is also plainly visible slightly to the right of the 8! The coin was discovered by Frank Van Allen (Fly-In #12) of Auctions by Bowers and Merena, while cataloging their upcoming "Dartmouth" sale. This coin will be sold with 2 other Indians as lot #6205. The grade is MS-63 RB.

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1865 Plain 5  
5 punched into denticals  
1 punched far right and under 8



Rick and I would like to thank Frank for calling this coin to our attention. If any of our members has a coin that they believe is a new discovery, please call Rick at (800) 346-4809. He can arrange to have photos taken, and if the coin is submitted within the next few months, he could also include it in his upcoming book on Flying Eagle and Indian cents.

EDITOR'S NOTE: F.IND.ERS IS A TRADEMARK OF LARRY R. STEVE AND IS USED WITHIN THIS JOURNAL WITH HIS PERMISSION.

## THE ROMANCE OF THE INDIAN CENT

by Christopher F. Pilliod

Although the penny of the 1990's is virtually taken for granted, the coinage of the Indian cent was inarguably an essential ingredient of its time. And its time was truly the backbone of our country's young history. With the country just four score and three (83) years old, the Indian cent was introduced to the American public becoming essential in most transactions of the time. From the Concord, New Hampshire baker giving two cents change on a loaf of bread to the fisherman in the Carolinas selling his bounty at perhaps a cent a pound, the Indian cent was doubtless a ubiquitous item.

Everyone had the coin -- and needed them no doubt. Surely the freed slaves found themselves after the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863 treasuring a handful of bright, shiny copper nickel coins. This at the same time they struggled to find meaning to freedom.

And as our country burst its seams westward in the late 1800's, the Indian cent found new homes in the prairies of the Dakotas, the plains of Kansas, and the mountains of Colorado. The very same person the whiteman would kill for land in these areas now bestowed the coins in his pockets. Whether nestling in a Congressman's pocket or tucked away in a Conestoga wagon, the Indian cent was fast spreading across this great country.

A rare uncirculated 1877 Indian cent could well have been lying on a desk top two feet away from Thomas Edison as he invented the incandescent bulb two years later. Perhaps the first light from electricity cast its beam on the coin. Years later Teddy Roosevelt, soon to be President and ardent supporter of numismatics, would ride up San Juan Hill with a pocket of change during the Spanish American War.

The 20th Century dawned and the Indian cent remained the nation's choice for the cent. For the first time, in 1908, a United States cent would be

coined at a place other than Philadelphia. The San Francisco mint would survive the great earthquake of 1906 to produce the cent in the last two years of its great run, 1908 and 1909. By then, businessmen were straining out their automobile windows to hand an attendant two cents for a parking spot for the day.

The Indian cent continued to be an essential part of the culture, as it was commonly passed in circulation right up to World War II. It may have hugged the grimy fatigues of a battle-fatigued infantryman in Bellan Wood in World War I. And just as freely as it was spent in the Roaring Twenties it was tenaciously clung to in the great depression of the thirties.

The Indian cent is truly a part of America's heritage, and anyone with a sense of history can not only see it but feel it when admiring the diagonally impressed "LIBERTY" on her headdress.

### WANTED TO BUY : VARIETIES

I am a serious collector of varieties - primarily repunched dates, overdates and doubled dies. I prefer VF or better (Full LIBERTY). Paying 5 to 50% over CDN Bid, depending upon condition and type of variety. Write first!

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## ADVERTISING POLICY -

Ads will only be accepted from members in good standing of the Society.

Minors under the age of 18 must have parental or guardian permission.

Only ads for Flying Eagle and Indian cents are permitted.

Mail bid advertising cannot be accepted.

Unless otherwise noted, grading will be in accordance with the *Official ANA Grading Standards for United States Coins*.

Advertisers must extend a 7 day return privilege.

Excluding the printing of an ad, the Society assumes no responsibility whatsoever, and reserves the right to edit or reject any ad that does not conform to its Policy.

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DAVE'S - (THE collectors friend) specializes in high grade key dates, VG to BU, strict grading a 'must'. ANA LM. Visa/MC. Please request my large pricelist. Send SASE to: Dave's DCW Collection, P.O. Box 1711, Ramona, CA 92065 (since 1983). 619-789-1001. Remember: I am a strong buyer too!

Henry T. Hettger, (703) 979-1942, P.O. Box 2018, Arlington, VA 22202. Send Check. Include \$2.50 for postage. 15 day return privilege. 1859 Breen #1945, 4-6 known, ANACS Cache GD-4, \$525. 1866/6 Breen #1969, ANACS Cache AU-58, \$175. 1891 Breen #2019, ANACS Cache EF-45, \$250.

### WANTED TO BUY

VARIETIES WANTED: RPDs, overdates, doubled dies only, VF (Full LIBERTY) or better. Write first. Private collector, L. R. Steve, P.O. Box 291, Jarrettsville, MD 21084

PLEASE SELL your off center, double struck, and other major error FE and Indian cents to me. Send description and price to: Xan Chamberlain, P.O. Box 915, Palo Alto, CA 94302. All correspondence answered. CONECA member.

COLLECTOR DESIRES circ. 1873 1c doubled LIBERTY Ty.-1. Please call: 203-625-9615 or write: Bob Lutzel, 60 Morningside Drive, Greenwich, CT 06830



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE SOCIETY

The Flying Eagle and Indian Cent Collectors Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to the collectors of small cents minted prior to the Lincoln design. Its intent is to foster a fraternal association among its members for the purpose of numismatic study, promotion and the sharing of knowledge about these coins.

It is a democratic organization and, with the exception of the Publisher/Editor (whose position is based upon qualifications), the Officers are elected by a simple majority of the members of the Society.

The Society's official publication, *Longacre's Ledger*, is produced quarterly (January, April, July and October) and is distributed to all members in good standing.

Additional copies for members and non-members alike can be obtained at a cost of \$4.50 per issue, subject to availability.

Articles, advertising, Letters to the Editors and other items of interest for possible inclusion in the Journal should be directed to:

Editor  
Longacre's Ledger  
P.O. Box 291  
Jarrettsville, Maryland 21084

The deadline for any such item is the 15th of the month preceding the publication date.